GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
WATER RESOURCES
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2193
ANSWERED ON:08.08.2005
RAINFALL
Singh Shri Rajiv Ranjan (Lalan);Suman Shri Ramji Lal

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the average annual rainfall during the last five years has been 1, 170 m.m.;

(b) if not, the facts in this regard;

(c) whether 90 per cent of the rain water flows down the drain; and

(d) if not, the quantum of rain water being harvested at present?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAI PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV)

(a) & (b) The average annual rainfall during the last five years as estimated by the India Meteorological Department is 1,117 millimetre (mm). However, the long term annual average rainfall is 1,170 mm.

(c) & (d) The average annual water availability in the country is assessed as 1869 Billion Cubic Metre (BCM). Owing to topographic, hydrological and other constraints, the utilizable water is assessed as 1122 BCM. Rest of the water could be considered to be flowing down to sea. For harvesting rain water, creation of storages through major, medium & minor schemes has been taken up by the respective State Governments. As a result, storage capacity of 213 BCM has been created so far. The schemes for rain water harvesting have also been taken up by the State Governments. The Government of India has also taken up schemes for restoration of water bodies, rain water harvesting and artificial recharge to ground water.